

THE JACOBS REPORT

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DEMS PLAN ECONOMIC ROAD TRIP

Led by Senators Gilda Z. Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods), Virg Bernero (D-Lansing), and Representative Paul Condino (D-Southfield), Legislative Democrats announced a series of town hall meetings to be held in cities across the state. The meetings are designed to spur a public dialogue on Michigan's economic future, specifically Governor Granholm's *Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow* economic package.

Sen. Jacobs laid the groundwork for the three-month tour, noting that the general public needs to know more about the governor's plans to lift up the state's sagging economy.

"Be it the Jobs Today plan, the yet-to-be-announced Jobs Tomorrow plan, the Single Business Tax (SBT) re-write or the new Merit Scholarship, the public is asking what Michigan is doing to stay economically competitive with the rest of the country and the rest of the world," Jacobs said. "The average person doesn't understand what we're doing. We need to detail it, explain it, and put it in layman's terms that this is a practical, dynamic plan that puts Michigan to work. This is a positive, progressive blue-print to turn the state around, but I'm afraid it's not getting the attention it deserves because it's comprehensive and not necessarily sexy."

"The Governor's proposed reforms will help strengthen Michigan's business climate and reduce the flow of jobs to other states," Sen. Virg Bernero (D-Lansing) said. "That's why they are supported by business and labor alike. This is definitely a win-win for everyone."

Scheduled town halls include:

April 19 in Lansing
April 21 in Grand Rapids
April 25 in Monroe
April 25 in Waterford
April 28 in Bedford
May 2 in Saginaw
May 4 in Jackson
May 5 in Ann Arbor
May 5 in Livonia
May 6 in Woodhaven
May 9 in Dearborn
June 3 in Sterling Heights

June 6 in Muskegon
June 13 in Alma
June 17 in Midland
June 20 in Escanaba
June 27 in Port Huron

Event sponsors in the Senate and House will be releasing more detailed information on town hall times and locations as the dates approach.

GRANHOLM GOES TO THE BULLPEN FOR TIGER OPENER

Governor Jennifer Granholm announced that she will summon a relief pitcher for the ceremonial first pitch at the Detroit Tigers' home opener on Monday. The honor will fall to Patrick Cannon, Gov. Granholm's disability policy advisor and former director of the Michigan Commission for the Blind.

Mr. Cannon was also a founder of the first officially sanctioned Tigers fan club and has attended 40 opening day ceremonies since 1955.

"Everyday, I represent the people of Michigan, but on Opening Day, I'm representing Detroit Tigers' fans across the state," Gov. Granholm said. "That's because Opening Day is for the fans and when it comes to fans, there is no one second to Pat Cannon."

"I never go to a Detroit Tigers' game expecting the team to lose, and I'm not going to Opening Day expecting my pitch to be bad," Mr. Cannon said. "It's going to be a great day at Comerica Park."

The governor will be in attendance Monday but has chosen to spread around the honor of throwing the first pitch.

GRANHOLM URGES RESIDENTS TO GET LIVING WILLS

(IMPORTANT INFO Reprint from Last Week's Jacobs Report)

With the dispute over the Terri Schiavo case and whether or not she had expressed a desire not to be kept alive, Governor Jennifer Granholm has urged all state residents to establish a living will to clearly set out their instructions for medical treatment in case they are unable to communicate their wishes.

"I say to every person in Michigan," said the governor, "get a living will so your wishes are known."

"Anything that makes us think about our own mortality is somewhat unpleasant, which makes it easy to put off making a will and designating what kind of medical care we want if we become incapacitated," said Senator Gilda Z. Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods). "Nevertheless, it is so important to make such decisions and spare your loved ones the confusion and trauma of having to settle matters through the courts."

Constituents of Senator Jacobs may contact her office toll-free at 1-888-YES GILDA to obtain a free “Peace of Mind” do-it-yourself guide to medical and legal decisions.

All Michigan legislation can be tracked at <http://www.legislature.michigan.gov/>.

State Senator Gilda Jacobs represents the 14th Senate District, which includes Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Franklin, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak Township, Southfield, and Southfield Township. She is the Minority Vice Chair of the Families & Human Services Committee and the Economic Development, Small Business & Regulatory Reform Committee. She also serves on the Government Operations and Health Policy Committees.

Constituents of the 14th District may contact Senator Jacobs at sengjacobs@senate.michigan.gov or toll-free at 1-888-937-4453.

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